

Wastewater Treatment

White River Environmental Partnership is a partnership of United Water Services, IWC Resources, and Suez Lyonnaise des Eaux. It entered into a 10 year (1998 through 2008), \$95 million agreement with the Gary Sanitary District to operate and maintain the City's 60 million gallons a day (MGD) wastewater treatment facility and its sewer system. The system serves 120,000 residents of Gary, Hobart, Merrillville, Lake Station, and Calumet Township.

The single stage Class IV wastewater treatment facility is located on the Grand Calumet River on the northwest side of Gary. It has a peak capacity of 180 MGD and is rated for 60 MGD. Wastewater is first treated by a trash rack, four mechanical bar screens, and two grit tanks followed by raw sewage pumps with wet wells, ten primary settling tanks, a scum concentration tank, six aeration tanks, 24 secondary settling tanks followed by dual wet wells, and ten granular media filters with mud wells.

United Water Services reported the existing wastewater treatment facility has more than enough capacity to support growth within Gary and its other customer cities. Improvement plans for the facility include an upgrade to the headworks. There are currently no plans for a new facility.

Water

Indiana American Water operates the water facility serving Gary. It is a conventional coagulation, sedimentation, dual media filtration facility with a rated pumping capacity of 54 MGD.

Indiana American Water reported the existing facility has capacity to support the existing and future development of Gary. The company continually reviews and upgrades the plant as needed to meet water quality, system delivery, and reliability.

Electric

Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) provides electric service to 450,000 customers in northern Indiana. NIPSCO representatives reported the company has sufficient electrical generating capacity to serve Gary's current needs. It also has the ability to purchase electricity on the market and support additional residential, commercial, and industrial development in Gary.

Gas

NIPSCO provides natural gas service to 750,000 customers in northern Indiana. NIPSCO representatives reported the company has sufficient natural gas generating capacity to serve Gary's current needs. It also can support additional residential, commercial, and industrial development.

Other Utilities

Other utilities located within Calumet Township providing service for Gary include:

- AT&T (SBC) *provides service to 60,000 land line telephone customers in Gary and an unknown number of wireless customers*
- BP Pipeline
- Buckeye Partners, LP
- Call Net Enterprises
- Citgo Petroleum
- Comcast
- Crossroads Pipeline (NiSource)
- Elantic Telecom (Cavalier Telephone)
- Enbridge Energy Partners
- Explorer Pipeline
- Kentucky Data Link
- Marathon Pipeline
- MCI (Verizon)
- Merrillville Conservancy *provides sewer service to only a few customers in Gary*
- MidCo Remedial Corporation
- Prax Air Inc. *provides service to U.S. Steel*
- Quest Communications
- RVP Fiber Company (U.S. Signal Corp.)
- Sprint and Nextel
- Wolverine Pipeline *does not provide any service to Gary but does pass through the City*

Historic Properties

The City of Gary offers a wealth of historic and culturally significant properties, especially near Downtown. There are currently three designated historic districts and nine individual properties that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Nation’s official list of historically significant structures.

The condition of existing buildings in Gary varies greatly. Some historic buildings are vacant or have been seriously altered from their original state, weakening the buildings’ historic integrity. In addition to the historic properties in Gary, there are also a number of vacant non-historic buildings throughout the City that are typically in poor condition. A non-historic building is usually defined as a building that is less than fifty years old. Despite the deteriorated state of many of the buildings, they still have an opportunity to contribute to revitalized neighborhoods.

A field observation was conducted to examine the conditions of existing historic buildings, specifically in the following areas:

- Miller and Marquette Park
- Downtown City Center Historic District
- South Broadway – Historic Midtown
- Near Downtown Scattered Sites
- Near West Side Scattered Sites and Districts

In addition to field work, the following documents were referenced:

- The 1975 Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory by the Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana (HLFI)
- The 1996 “Lake County Interim Report” that rated buildings on four different levels based on their historic integrity:
 - **Outstanding (O):** The building has a great amount of historic integrity, making it eligible for a National Register listing (or the property is likely already listed).
 - **Notable (N):** The building is not quite as impressive as an “O” rating, but is still above average in historic importance.
 - **Contributing (C):** All pre-1940 buildings that contribute to the continuity of an area’s historic fabric but did not earn the merit of an “N” or “O” rating.
 - **Non-Contributing (NC):** All post-1940 buildings or older buildings that were badly damaged or altered and therefore no longer contribute to the historic fabric of the neighborhood.